

Whereas there are over 4,200 Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) volunteers from among the business, civic, and community leaders in committees in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam;

Whereas the ESGR volunteers carry out a variety of programs and services to inform communities and employers about the vital role of the National Guard and Reserve;

Whereas ESGR volunteers honor with suitable recognition the many employers who actively support employee participation in the National Guard and Reserve;

Whereas ESGR volunteers educate employers of members in the National Guard and Reserve and those employees about the rights and obligations regarding military leave that were established or reaffirmed by the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act of 1974;

Whereas, to underscore the important role of the National Guard and Reserve in our national defense, the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve developed the Statement of Support program under which employers of members of the reserve components are invited to declare their support for their employees' participation in the National Guard and Reserve;

Whereas the first statement of support under the program was signed by the Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of General Motors in the Office of the Secretary of Defense on December 13, 1972;

Whereas the next day, President Richard Nixon signed a statement of support covering all Federal civilian employees and, since then, Presidents Ford, Carter, Reagan, Bush, and Clinton have all made the same commitment;

Whereas thousands of other employers nationwide have likewise signed statements of support for service of their employees in the reserve components;

Whereas nearly 50 percent of America's total military might is composed of National Guard and Reserve component members;

Whereas despite the ending of the Cold War in 1989, the military commitments of the United States have not diminished;

Whereas the Nation's reserve components are being called upon more than ever before to contribute to the protection of our national security interests and are critical contributors to that mission;

Whereas, during the Persian Gulf War in 1990 and 1991, more than 260,000 Reserves were called to active duty to support military operations in the Persian Gulf region;

Whereas National Guard and Reserve members contribute over 13,000,000 duty days yearly in support of military operations and exercises worldwide, which is a rate of duty that is 13 times greater than the rate of duty experienced during the Cold War; and

Whereas employers, public officials, military leaders, and military members rely on the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve to promote public and private understanding of the National Guard and Reserve in order to obtain the employer and community support that is necessary to ensure the availability and readiness of reserve component forces: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That—*

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve makes vital contributions to enabling the National Guard and Reserve to support the national security strategy while, at the same time, acting on behalf of the Nation's employers to ensure that their interests are represented with equity and fairness; and

(2) the Senate congratulates the National Committee for Employer Support of the

Guard and Reserve, its staff, and volunteers for their commitment to our national defense, for their contribution of time and talent, and for maintaining the much needed support of employers and communities for the National Guard and Reserve.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 228—MAKING CHANGES TO SENATE COMMITTEES FOR THE 106TH CONGRESS

Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 228

*Resolved, That notwithstanding the provisions of S. Res. 400 of the 95th Congress, or the provisions of rule XXV, the following changes shall be effective on those Senate committees listed below for the 106th Congress, or until their successors are appointed:*

Committee on Intelligence: Add Mr. Mack.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 229—MAKING CERTAIN MAJORITY APPOINTMENTS TO CERTAIN SENATE COMMITTEES FOR THE 106TH CONGRESS

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 229

*Resolved, That notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXV, the following shall constitute the majority membership of those Senate committees listed below for the 106th Congress, or until their successors are appointed:*

Committee on Finance: Mr. Roth (Chairman), Mr. Grassley, Mr. Hatch, Mr. Murkowski, Mr. Nickles, Mr. Gramm, Mr. Lott, Mr. Jeffords, Mr. Mack, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. Coverdell.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Mr. Helms (Chairman), Mr. Lugar, Mr. Hagel, Mr. Smith of Oregon, Mr. Grams, Mr. Brownback, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Ashcroft, Mr. Frist, and Mr. Chafee.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Mr. Smith of New Hampshire (Chairman), Mr. Warner, Mr. Inhofe, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Bond, Mr. Voinovich, Mr. Crapo, Mr. Bennett, Mrs. Hutchison, and Mr. Chafee.

Committee on Ethics: Mr. Roberts (Chairman), Mr. Smith of New Hampshire, and Mr. Voinovich.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 230—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE WITH RESPECT TO GOVERNMENT DISCRIMINATION IN GERMANY BASED ON RELIGION OR BELIEF

Mr. ENZI (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 230

Whereas government discrimination in Germany against individuals and groups based on religion or belief violates Germany's obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Helsinki Accords, which provide that member states must "recognize and respect the freedom of the individual to profess and practice alone or in community with others,

religion or belief acting in accordance with the dictates of his own conscience";

Whereas the 1993 through 1998 State Department Country Reports on Human Rights Practices in Germany have disclosed acts of Federal, State, and local government discrimination in Germany against members of minority religious groups, including Charismatic Christians, Muslims, Jehovah's Witnesses, and Scientologists;

Whereas State Department Human Rights Reports on Germany have also disclosed acts of government discrimination against United States citizens because of their religious beliefs;

Whereas State Department Human Rights Reports on Germany have disclosed discrimination based on religion or belief in Germany in such forms as exclusion from government employment and political parties; the use of "sect-filters" (required declarations that a person or company is not affiliated with a particular religious group) by government, businesses, sports clubs, and other organizations; government-approved boycotts and discrimination against businesses; and the prevention of artists from performing or displaying their works;

Whereas United Nations reports have disclosed discrimination based on religion or belief in Germany, and a 1997 report by the United Nations Special Rapporteur for Religious Intolerance concluded that the Government of Germany "must implement a strategy to prevent intolerance in the field of religion and belief";

Whereas the 1998 report of the State Department's Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom Abroad warned that unless the work of the German Government's Parliamentary Inquiry Commission on "so-called sects and psycho-groups", which investigated dozens of religious groups, including Mormons and other minority Christian groups, "focuses [its] work on investigating illegal acts, [it] runs the risk of denying individuals the right to freedom of religion or belief", and the Committee specifically reported that "members of the Church of Scientology and of a Christian charismatic church have been subject to intense scrutiny by the Commission, and several members have suffered harassment, discrimination, and threats of violence"; and

Whereas in 1997, a United States immigration judge granted a German woman asylum in the United States, finding that she had a well-founded fear of persecution based on her religious beliefs if she returned to Germany: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Senate—*

(1) urges the Government of Germany to uphold its commitments to "take effective measures to prevent and eliminate discrimination against individuals or communities on the grounds of religion or belief" and "foster a climate of mutual tolerance and respect between believers of different communities", as required by the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe's Vienna Concluding Document of 1989;

(2) urges the Government of Germany to enter into a constructive dialogue with minority groups subject to government discrimination based on religion or belief;

(3) continues to hold the Government of Germany responsible for protecting the right of freedom of religion or belief of United States citizens who are living, performing, doing business, or traveling in Germany; and

(4) calls upon the President to assert the concern of the United States Government to the Government of Germany regarding government discrimination in Germany based on religion or belief.

• Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I rise to submit a resolution concerning religious discrimination in Germany with